



Robert D. Graham's letter to his father, March 14, 1862, reports the fall of New Bern. An original sketch was done by Edwin Forbes and appeared in *Harper's Weekly*, April 11, 1863. Shown here is a copy of the Forbes sketch.

together. They, except Johnnie, leave for Kinston in the morning. I don't know when we'll be up.

From John W. Graham

UNC

Goldsboro',

March 17th., 1862.

I have intended before this to try and give you some reliable particulars about our late disastrous defeat.³⁷ Our forces were arranged, commencing on the left of our line, near our lowest Fort, Sloan's³⁸ Regiment, (Major Gilmer's³⁹ command) Lee,⁴⁰

³⁷ New Bern had just fallen to Federal troops.

³⁸ John Sloan, of Guilford County, was colonel of the Twenty-seventh North Carolina Regiment. Clark, *Histories of the North Carolina Regiments*, II, 425-427.

³⁹ John Adams Gilmer, Jr., (1838-1892), of Greensboro, graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1858. He volunteered and was eventually promoted to lieutenant colonel of the Twenty-seventh North Carolina. A severe wound sustained in October, 1863, ended his military career. Gilmer was a successful lawyer, a state senator, 1870-1872, and a superior court judge, 1881-1889. Spencer Alumni Project; Connor, *Manual*, 1913, 450, 635.

⁴⁰ Charles C. Lee, a graduate of West Point in 1856, resigned his commission as second lieutenant and, in 1859, became a professor at Charlotte's North Carolina